

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AEC-07 AID-05

CEA-01 CIEP-02 COME-00 EB-07 FPC-01 INT-05 OMB-01

SAM-01 OES-05 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-01 ACDA-10 SAJ-01

FEA-01 MC-02 /127 W

----- 130652

O R 202323Z DEC 74 ZFF 4

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5356

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR ENEG FR US UR EEC

SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING'S

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DECEMBER 20 TELEVISED INTERVIEW

1. FOLLOWING ARE HIGHLIGHTS OF GISCARD'S DECEMBER 20
TELEVISED INTERVIEW WITH FOUR LEADING MEMBERS OF THE
FRENCH PRESS, AS HEARD BY EMBASSY OFFICERS AND TRANS-
LATED FROM INCOMPLETE TEXT. FULL TEXT FOLLOWS BY
SEPTTEL.

2. CSCE: "MR. BREZHNEV IS GREATLY ATTACHED TO THIS
CONFERENCE AND VERY MUCH HOPES THAT IT WILL TAKE PLACE
AT THE SUMMIT. UP TO NOW THE POSITION OF A CERTAIN
NUMBER OF COUNTRIES HAS BEEN TO SAY, 'WE WILL SEE IF
THE RESULTS WARRANT HAVING A SUMMIT OR NOT.' I INDICA-
TED TO MR. BREZHNEV THAT AS FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED,
PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES PERMIT TAKING A POSITION, IN
PRINCIPLE, FAVORABLE TO A SIGNATURE AT THE SUMMIT. A
CERTAIN NUMBER OF PROBLEMS REMAIN TO BE RESOLVED. ON
THE THIRD QUESTION, THAT IS TO SAY, THE MOVEMENT OF
PEOPLE AND IDEAS, MR. BREZHNEV HAD MADE NEW PROPOSI-
TIONS WHICH I CONSIDER AS POSITIVE. SINCE RAMBOUILLET,
THERE HAVE BEEN SOME POSITIVE PROPOSITIONS, CERTAIN OF
WHICH HAVE BEEN THE OBJECT OF DIRECT FRANCO-SOVIET
CONVERSATIONS, WHICH ENABLE US TO CONSIDER THAT THERE
IS A MARKED ACCELERATION IN THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE.

"I SPOKE ABOUT THIS TO MR. SCHMIDT BY TELEPHONE
TO TELL HIM WHAT I HAD SAID TO MR. BREZHNEV. I SPOKE
ABOUT IT TO MESSRS. FORD AND KISSINGER. A CERTAIN
NUMBER OF PROBLEMS STILL REMAIN, BUT THE CURRENT STATE
OF PROGRESS PERMITS THINKING THAT IT HOPEFULLY MIGHT
BE CONCLUDED DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 1975."

3. ON BREZHNEV: GISCARD STRESSED THAT HE HAD THE
FEELING THAT BREZHNEV HAS A PROFOUND AND DELIBERATE
DESIRE FOR PEACE.

4. FRENCH COOPERATION WITH NATO: "THERE IS NO
CHANGE IN THE FRENCH POSITION VIS-A-VIS NATO. WE DO
NOT BELONG TO THE INTEGRATED COMMAND. WHAT WE CALL
COOPERATION IS THE CURRENT STATE OF RELATIONS BETWEEN
FRANCE AND NATO."

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5. FRENCH RELATIONS WITH US AND USSR: GISCARD SAID
THAT FRENCH RELATIONS WITH THE GREAT POWERS ARE DIFFI-
CULT BECAUSE OF THE INEQUALITY OF POWER. HE ADDED THAT
IT IS EASIER TO HAVE EQUAL RELATIONS WITH THE USSR
BECAUSE ALL THE PROBLEMS WITH THE SOVIET UNION ARE
TREATED GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT, WHILE WITH THE
UNITED STATES PROBLEMS ARE OFTEN TREATED IN OTHER
THAN GOVERNMENT CHANNELS.

6. MIDDLE EAST: GISCARD SAID THAT THERE IS CURRENTLY A CONVERGENCE OF ANALYSIS IN MANY COUNTRIES ABOUT THE ME SITUATION AND THAT SOLUTIONS ARE ALMOST PERCEIVABLE. HE UNDERLINED THAT NO AGREEMENT IS POSSIBLE WITHOUT A SOLUTION TO THE BASIC PROBLEM OF PALESTINE. HE THEN NOTED THREE PROBLEMS IN THE AREA: THE PALESTINI-ANS, OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES, AND ISRAEL. HE SAID THE SOVIET AND FRENCH ANALYSES OF THE SITUATION ARE THE SAME, AND THAT A GREAT MANY EUROPEAN AND ARAB COUNTRIES AGREE WITH THE FRENCH THESIS.

7. BRITISH RELATIONSHIP TO EC: GISCARD EMPHASIZED THAT BRITAIN WAS NOT SEEKING TO RENEGOTIATE THE ROME TREATY NOR WAS THE UK TRYING TO RENEGOTIATE ITS ENTRY TERMS.

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8. ENERGY: GISCARD SAID A TRIPARTITE ENERGY CONFERENCE MUST BE PREPARED. "WE HAVE ALWAYS SAID THAT THIS PREPARATION SHOULD INCLUDE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN CONSUMER COUNTRIES. SINCE THERE ARE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN PRODUCING COUNTRIES, THE CONSUMERS MUST TALK TO EACH OTHER; IF NOT, THE NEGOTIATION WOULD BE UNBALANCED." HE INDICATED THAT THE FIRST PHASE OF "CONCERTATION" BETWEEN CONSUMING COUNTRIES WOULD INCLUDE AMERICANS AND THEIR IEA PARTNERS AND THAT FRANCE AS SUCH WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE. NEXT, HE SAID, WOULD BE A TECHNICAL MEETING WITH THE PRODUCERS WHICH IS NECESSARY TO DECIDE WHO WILL COME AND WHAT SUBJECTS WILL BE TREATED DURING THE CONFERENCE AND, FINALLY, BEFORE THE CONFERENCE ITSELF, THERE WILL BE A "CONCENTRATION" AMONG CONSUMERS TO PREPARE THE COMMON POSITION. IN RESUME, GISCARD SAID, "WE SHALL PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETINGS THAT PREPARE 'LA CONCENTRATION.' WE SHALL NOT PARTICIPATE IN MEETINGS WHICH MIGHT PREPARE AN EVENTUAL CONFRONTATION."

GISCARD SAID THERE HAD BEEN A CHANGE IN THE AMERICAN ATTITUDE TO PETROLEUM PRICES. A SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION IN OIL PRICES IS NO LONGER THE AMERICAN OBJECTIVE, HE SAID, FOR RELATIVELY EXPENSIVE OIL IS NECESSARY FOR MEDIUM-TERM POLITICAL REASONS WHICH ARE TO DEVELOP AMERICA'S OWN RESOURCES. GISCARD SAID THIS DID NOT NECESSARILY MEAN MAINTAINING CURRENT PRICES AND THAT HE THOUGHT THE AMERICAN OBJECTIVE WAS A SLIGHT REDUCTION IN PRICE.

9. F-L04 REPLACEMENT: GISCARD SAID: "AT MARTINIQUE
WE SPOKE VERY FRANKLY ABOUT THE EXISTING COMPETITION
BETWEEN FRANCE AND THE US FOR SUPPLYING A SUPERSONIC
AIRCRAFT TO FOUR EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. WE DID NOT RESOLVE
(ABOUTI) THIS PROBLEM. WE REMAIN IN COMPETITION."

10. GOLD: GISCARD SAID THAT FRANCE DID NOT PROPOSE,
AS THE SHAH MAY BELIEVE, REVALUING THE REAL PRICE OF
GOLD, BUT MERELY PROPOSED THAT CENTRAL BANKS WHICH HAVE
GOLD SHOULD COUNT IT AT ITS ACTUAL VALUE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TELEVISION BROADCASTING, NEWS MEDIA COMMENTS, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PARIS30750
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740372-0263, D740371-0580
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741219/aaaaapsa.tel
Line Count: 240
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 OCT 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 OCT 2002 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <02 JAN 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING'S UNCLASSIFIED
TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, FR, US, UR, EEC, (GISCARD D'ESTAING)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005